

1 An alert system for requesting service of a machine which requires servicing
comprising:

a sensor for detecting a machine event;

5 a recorder storing one or more pre-recorded voice messages, said voice messages
corresponding to machine event;

a transmitter for transmitting said voice messages over the public switched telephone
network; and

a trigger for transmitting said voice messages to a predetermined telephone number
using said transmitter upon said sensor detecting a predetermined machine event.

10 2. The alert system for requesting service of a machine of Claim 1 wherein said
transmitter leaves a voice-mail message with an answering system when transmitting said
voice messages.

15 3. The alert system for requesting service of a machine of Claim 1 further
comprising a clock connected to said trigger, said trigger sending said voice messages
corresponding to machine event at predetermined times of the day.

4. The alert system for requesting service of a machine of Claim 3 further comprising:

a plurality of sensors for detecting machine events at a plurality of machines;

5 a plurality of recorders storing pre-recorded voice messages corresponding to machine events;

a plurality of transmitters for transmitting the voice messages over the public switched telephone network;

a plurality of triggers for transmitting the voice messages to a predetermined telephone number upon the sensor detecting a predetermined machine event; and

10 a plurality of clocks connected to said triggers causing said triggers to send said voice messages corresponding to machine event at predetermined times of the day;

said clocks staggering the transmission of voice messages from the plurality of machines to avoid busy signals.

5. A method of requesting service of a machine comprising the steps of:

5 providing an alert system including a machine sensor for detecting machine event, a recorder storing one or more pre-recorded voice messages, the voice messages corresponding to machine event, a transmitter for transmitting the voice messages over the public switched telephone network; and a trigger for transmitting the voice messages to a predetermined telephone number using the transmitter upon the sensor detecting a predetermined machine event;

detecting a machine event with the machine sensor; and

10 transmitting a voice message to a predetermined telephone number over the public switched telephone network, the voice message corresponding to the machine event;

receiving the voice message by persons servicing the machine.

6. The method of requesting service of a machine of Claim 5 further comprising the step of recording the telephone voice message on an answering system after the message
15 has been transmitting a voice message to a predetermined telephone number.

7. The method of requesting service of a machine of Claim 5 wherein the alert system includes a clock connected to the trigger, and the method of requesting service includes the step of transmitting the voice messages corresponding to machine event at predetermined times of the day.

5 8. The method of requesting service of a machine of Claim 7 wherein the alert system includes a plurality of sensors for detecting machine events at a plurality of machines, a plurality of recorders storing pre-recorded voice messages corresponding to machine events, a plurality of transmitters for transmitting the voice messages over the public switched telephone network, a plurality of triggers for transmitting the voice messages to a
10 predetermined telephone number upon the sensor detecting a predetermined machine event; and a plurality of clocks connected to said triggers causing said triggers to send said voice messages corresponding to machine event at predetermined times of the day, and the method of requesting service further comprises the step of:

15 staggering the transmission of voice messages from the plurality of machines to avoid busy signals.